

Ripley County Democrat.

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'ROUNDABOUT THE STATE.

Gleaned from Exchanges—Made by the Shears, the Pencil and the Paste Pot—Some Original, Some Credited, and Some Stolen, but Nearly All Interesting Reading.

A New Franklin druggist recently expended \$3000 as a tribute to the local option law.

Thirty days in jail for the theft of one lone chicken was what fate had in store for a Moberly negro.

A Williamsburg man who recently captured a large eagle will give the bird to the St. Louis zoo.

H. U. G. Turnmire of Putnam county is embracing his opportunities and running for superintendent of schools.

According to J. T. Mitchell, state bank commissioner, there were 130 new banks organized in Missouri during the year 1914.

For Ash Grove, the commonwealth claims the distinction of being the only town in the state that has not a single empty office room.

A Taney county man claims to have landed a four and one-half foot spoonbill catfish. It's all right, even if it had been several feet longer.

The Brookfield Argus has noted that every worthless man appears to have the faculty of inducing one or more women to be foolish about him.

After marketing 105 capons for \$112, Mrs. Champ Simpson of Kissinger remarked that she thought she had done pretty well with her chickens.

May 6 has been designated as "Missouri Day" at the San Diego exposition. The entertainment for Missourians on this date will be most interesting.

By the terms of a recent act of congress Chillicothe becomes the owner of two condemned bronze cannons. The two pieces when received will be placed in the court house yard.

For two years confined to his bed by a stroke of paralysis, T. J. Ridgway of Carthage busied himself by inventing a bed spring on which he recently has been granted a patent.

After waiting four months for a Moberly man to bring back a borrowed tool, a blacksmith there according to the Jameson Gam, telephoned: "You've only had it four months and I wish you'd bring it back right away. I've got a chance to lend it for a year."

Five Warrensburg ladies who should have done their trading at home, went to Kansas City and blew their money for a lot of new duds. That night while they were at a theatre a thief entered their boarding house and took all the fine things they had purchased.

A Columbia smoker was so vexed when he found a dead snake in his package of "stars" tobacco that he appealed to the prosecuting attorney to see if the manufacturer could not be prosecuted for negligence. So far the prosecutor has taken no action in the matter.

Fred. L. Atkinson, youthful assistant bank cashier of the Summersville State Bank, who eloped to St. Louis Nov. 15, after having embezzled nearly \$2,000 of the bank's funds, pleaded guilty Thursday in the Texas county circuit court. He was sentenced to two years in the penitentiary.

It is said that the Burlington contemplates the erection of a new \$25,000 passenger station in Tarkio as soon as weather conditions will permit.

A physicians' war is on in Texas county. One Houston doctor cut the price for professional visits and his competitors are "going him one better."

When a Newton county woman found a dynamite cap she tried to open it with a hairpin. The cap exploded, maiming three fingers so seriously that later they were amputated.

H. A. Killion, of Portageville has contracted with J. W. McCrate of the same place to deliver to him next October 225,000 pounds of sunflower seed, for which he is to receive \$2.25 per hundred.

Noting that a Chicago man died there recently at the age of 103, the Chillicothe Tribune's comment is that there is no telling how old he might have lived to be had he stayed away from Chicago.

Sixty years on the Mississippi river was the record of Capt. Aaron B. Hall, who died in St. Louis recently. Captain Hall was 89 years old and had been an Odd Fellow for more than sixty-one years.

T. T. Puckett of Mayview has been a notary public since the administration of Governor Marquand, who was elected in 1884. Mr. Puckett has just received from Governor Major a new commission which expires in 1919.

An anonymous letter that brought forth no unfavorable comments was one received by the president of Tarkio College. The letter contained two \$5 bills and asked that the money be used for the good of the college.

Liberty business men are considering the project of piping natural gas from the recently discovered wells near Parkville. The wells have been "connected up" with Parkville, where laterals are being laid on the principal streets.

A bottle message thrown into Long Branch, near Atlanta, January 31, was found one day last week by a farmer living two miles from the home of the young woman whose name was inside. In about five weeks the bottle had traveled only two miles.

A remarkable incident in the history of a Cass county mutual insurance company was that at a meeting of its directors this week only one claim was presented for adjustment. The single claim was for seventy-five cents, being the damage done to a residence by lightning.

The Amsterdam Enterprise is spoofing Merwin because a young chap who resides near the latter town paid \$10 while visiting Kansas City recently for an interest in the City Market house. The deed has not yet arrived and from the way the Enterprise looks at it, the Merwinite may have been humbugged.

Many Children Are Sickly
Mother Gray's Sweet Powders for children break up colds in 24 hours, relieve Feverishness, Headaches, Stomach troubles, Throwing disorders, and destroy worms. At all druggists. 25c sample mailed free. Address Allen S. Olmsted, Albany, N. Y.

LAWS ADDED TO STATUTE BOOKS

SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION ENACTED BY MISSOURI GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

LAND BANK BILL IS PASSED

Over 1,800 Bills Introduced, but Less Than 200 Become Laws—Contract System at Penitentiary to Be Abolished.

Jefferson City.
Were it not for the fact that the wet and dry issues were considered more important by some members of the forty-eighth Missouri general assembly than constructive measures, the railroads would have been given fair and equitable legislation regarding rates, and the code of Missouri would have been revised to such an extent that this state could boast of having the best statutes in the country.

These two measures are the more important ones that have failed at the hands of the obstructionists. The great majority of the much needed legislation was granted, and the members of the assembly can return to their homes without having to blush for their actions.

Prison Bill Passed.
But as to the most important of the bills considered by the late assembly there is not much room for argument as to that place being occupied by the legislation to abolish the contract system from the state penitentiary.

The salient features of the law as passed are that no contracts for prison labor can be extended beyond December 31, 1916.

The present contracts will expire December 31 of this year. The board of prison inspectors shall be composed of the attorney general, state auditor and state treasurer. The state-controlled twine plant is to be enlarged and new state-owned manufacturing plants are to be installed at once.

The state institutions are required under the bill to purchase all possible supplies from these plants.

A superintendent of industries is to be employed to supervise the work in the state-controlled plants and his salary is not to exceed \$5,000.

At no time can more than half of the inmates of the penitentiary be leased to outside contractors.

Gardner Land Bank Bill.
The bill for a constitutional amendment, known as the Rural Credit Law, sponsored by Col. Fred D. Gardner of St. Louis, which passed both houses, is undoubtedly a true specimen of advanced legislation. It seeks to make it possible for tillers of the soil to become more independent, by providing for state aid in making long loans at low rates of interest. It will have a tendency to send many thousands "back to the soil" if they desire to go, as provision has been made for the landless man to at last own his own place. Col. Gardner has made a study of conditions at home and abroad and his plan embodies the features found good elsewhere and eliminates the objectionable.

During the session 1,074 bills were introduced in the house and 619 were read in the senate. The members of the legislature worked 54 days. The general assembly was to close Tuesday, when the seventieth day was reached, and the lawmakers since that time have received but \$1 a day for their compensation.

Major Signs Fire Rating Bill.
The members of the legislature can point with pride to the passage of the fire insurance rating bill. It was one of the important measures advocated by the administration and was signed by Gov. Major. For a period of more than four years the fire insurance conditions in this state have been chaotic.

The assembly passed what was known as the Oliver law and this act caused no end of turbulence in the insurance field. Two years later the Oliver law was enacted and through this act the insurance companies retired from the state; the insurers declining to write policies under the Oliver law. It was only through much diplomacy that they consented to renew their business relations with the people of Missouri. The fire insurance rating law, which is known as the Watson bill, is expected to be one of the most equitable rating laws that has ever been passed in this country. Insurance commissioners from many states have written to State Superintendent of Insurance Charles G. Revelle that in their opinion the Missouri law should be copied in every state in the Union.

State Reformatory.
The establishment of the state reformatory at Booneville, as was suggested in Gov. Major's message, was another of the more important bills approved. This act carries with it an appropriation of \$80,000 and the Missouri Training School for Boys at Booneville will be known in the future as the state reformatory.

At this state institution first offenders who would have been sent to the penitentiary will be incarcerated. It is believed through this policy that many youthful criminals will be reformed.

The new banking bill revolutionizes the banking statutes of this state and is a protective measure to the depositors of this state. It is considered by financiers and business men to be one of the best bills of the kind ever passed in Missouri.

Amended by Agreement.
The bill, sponsored by the Missouri Bankers' Association, passed the house after three conferences between committees of both branches of the assembly. The fight was precipitated over the Roney amendment prohibiting trust companies acting as administrators on estates where the wills were drawn by attorneys for the trust companies.

The lawmakers, without almost a dissenting vote, approved the appointment of a commission for the blind. This board, which will be composed of philanthropists will provide means to teach the sightless trades that will earn these unfortunates a livelihood. The legislature, with almost an unanimous approval, has given St. Louis two new circuit judges.

Mutual Insurance Companies.
Another of the more important measures that was passed is the bill relating to reciprocal and mutual insurance. In almost every district of the state they are county mutual companies, while in the larger cities they are classed reciprocal or organizations that carry millions and millions of dollars worth of risks. At a previous session of the legislature a reciprocal insurance law was passed, but the supreme court held it unconstitutional. Since that time all mutual companies have operated without legal jurisdiction.

Scenes of bills relating to the betterment of roads and highways, the educational institutions, and to assist local conditions passed the assembly.

Much of the time of the legislators was consumed in apportioning the appropriations. During the closing hours of the session the senate devoted its entire efforts to arranging financial provisions for all of its institutions.

A resolution offered by Senator Buford asking for the appointment of a committee of three members of the senate to visit other state capitals during the ensuing two years and gather ideas for furnishing and equipping the senate chamber in the new statehouse was adopted. The resolution appropriates \$1,800 for the expenses of this committee.

Commissions Named.
Under a resolution offered by Senator Kinney for appointment of a woman's wage commission, President Palmer announced the members of the committee as follows: Chairman, under the terms of the resolution, Lieut. Gov. Painter, Senators Kinney, Morgan, Brogan and Whitledge.

Sensors Morjan, Harris, Mitchell, Anderson and Bronson were named as the insurance commission under the terms of a resolution adopted some weeks ago to make a study of the fire insurance conditions and report to the next general assembly. There is an appropriation of \$10,000 to cover the expenses of this commission.

On motion of Senator Phelps, Senator Gardner was added to the committee on constitutional amendments and new capitol, which will hold a session after adjournment of the assembly to investigate contracts for the new statehouse to ascertain if the law has been complied with in reference to Missouri men and material being given the preference as required by the act providing for the construction of the building.

No appropriation was asked for this committee and the members of it will pay their own expenses while conducting the investigation.

The following is a complete list of the bills passed by the assembly:

House Bills.
No. 1. Mr. Tuggle—Appropriating money for the payment of interest on the school and seminary certificates and on the capitol building bonds.
No. 2. Mr. Tuggle—Appropriating one-third of the revenue receipts of the state for 1915-16 for support of the public schools.
No. 3. Mr. Tuggle—Appropriating \$535,000 for assessment and collection of the revenue for the years 1915-16.
No. 4. Mr. Tuggle—Appropriating money for the pay of salaries of civil officers of 1915-16, approximately \$1,488,000.
No. 5. Mr. Tuggle—Appropriating money for the support, maintenance and improvement of the elementary and normal institutions of the state for the biennial period of 1915-16, giving approximately \$9,752,453.

Committee Substitute for No. 301—Amending trade-mark law so as to prohibit use of union card or label without contract with union.

No. 82. Mr. Browning—Increasing the wolf scalp bounty from \$3 for young and \$6 for adult wolf scalps to \$10, regardless of age of animal from which scalp was taken.

No. 233. Mr. Bowman—Requiring gangways of manufacturing establishments to be kept open.

No. 165. Mr. Watson—Giving electrical companies right of eminent domain in the construction of transmission lines.

No. 766. Mr. Norman—Amending the township organization law so that counties that adopted the law in 1914 may have method of applying the assessment law. The measure is applicable to all counties which may hereafter adopt the township organization plan.

No. 277. Mr. Simpson—Creating the Missouri Land Bank and establishing a system of rural credits. Cannot become effective without an amendment to the constitution.

No. 124. Mr. Barbee—Giving state depository 45 days in which to make settlement with the state at termination of contract.

No. 533. Mr. Knight—Amending the elections of the state for the biennial period of except in cities of 25,000 population and upward, must be opened at 6 a. m. and closed at 7 p. m.

No. 389. Mr. Haenastler—Revising the code of laws regulating the order and conduct of building and loan associations.

No. 232. Mr. Waterman—Designating October 1 as Missouri Day.

No. 469. Providing that where there is more than one city or town in a school district there shall be polling places in both on election days for school officers.

No. 523. Mr. Cornelius—Providing for the establishment of grain inspection by the state in cities of 75,000 and upward.

No. 232. Mr. Wilkinson—Prohibiting misleading and deceptive advertising in newspapers or other publications, or in the form of a book, notice, handbill, poster, circular, pamphlet or letter.

No. 414. Mr. Bradley, by request—Requiring railroad companies to maintain lights on switches in yards where trains are made up.

No. 461. Mr. Mayer—Creating the 38th judicial circuit, to be made up of the counties of New Madrid and Pemiscot.

No. 524. Mr. Watson—Providing that irregularities in casting up the returns of stock-law, elections shall not invalidate the adoption of such law in any county where the records show there was a majority for it, and 15 years have elapsed and the adoption of the law has not been declared invalid by a court competent jurisdiction.

No. 57. Mr. Houx—Prohibiting records of deeds from making abstracts to titles of deeds during their term of office.

No. 618. Mr. Adams—Providing for the establishment of a state fish hatchery in the Ozark Mountains.

No. 24. Mr. Farris—Changing the time of holding court in the 19th judicial circuit.

No. 110.—Mr. McKnight—Changing the time of holding court in the fourth judicial circuit.

No. 140. Mr. Robinson of Buchanan—Amending the charter of the city of St. Joseph with reference to bond elections.

No. 433. Mr. Feaster, by request—Amending the law with reference to the collection of collateral inheritance tax due from unknown persons of nonresidents of the state.

No. 595. Mr. Cook of Ray county—Giving the state mine inspector and his assistants the power, and making it his duty to close down any mine where damp exists and the safety appliances are defective.

No. 392. Mr. McKnight—Permitting use of public schoolhouse and grounds for general public meetings, and for civic and social purposes.

Committee Substitute for House Bills Nos. 28 and 51—Changing the time of holding court in the 31st judicial circuit.

No. 275. Mr. Watson—Amending the law governing appeals to the courts of appeals from the circuit courts.

No. 4. Mr. Watson—Fire insurance rating bill.

No. 383. Mr. Simpson—Establishing a reformatory for first offenders in connection with the Booneville Reformatory for Boys.

No. 663. Mr. Robinson of Buchanan—Amending the charter of St. Joseph so that city can issue bonds for the purchase of fire automobiles.

No. 643. Mr. Robinson of Buchanan—Changing charter of city of St. Joseph so that city is authorized to collect streets and roads within its limits.

No. 675. Mr. Frank—Amending the fraternal organization beneficiary law.

No. 497. Mr. Nelson—Amending the special road district law applicable to counties that are operating under the township organization law.

No. 652. Mr. Taylor—Increasing the salaries of the chief clerk and his assistants in the office of the Kansas City election commissioners.

No. 1008. Mr. Haas—Making provision for the building of bridges across streams forming the boundary between Missouri and another state.

No. 651. Mr. Cook and New Madrid—Providing for assessing and collecting a uniform tax in drainage districts and that engineers for such districts shall give bond.

No. 805. Mr. Roney—Requiring lead and zinc mine owners employing 10 or more men to provide sanitary drinking devices for use of employees.

No. 72. Mr. Shannon of Jasper—Authorizing cities of 5,000 and upwards to appoint women policemen.

No. 18. Mr. Dumm—Enlarging the timber trawns manufacturer in the penitentiary.

No. 668. Mr. Adams—Amending the law regulating the appointment of clerks in the state insurance department.

No. 704. Mr. Cooper—Permitting license collector of St. Louis and the county clerks to retain 15 cents for each hunter's license issued.

No. 774. Mr. Parker—Authorizing the collection of civil damages from married women.

No. 664. Mr. Robinson of Buchanan—Amending the charter of the city of St. Joseph with reference to issuance of bonds.

No. 1010. Mr. Settle—Providing for appointment of assistant county surveyor in St. Louis county.

No. 81. Mr. Griffith—Increasing the salary of the director of the state poultry experiment station.

No. 736. Mr. Nicker—Amending the road overseer law.

No. 1032.—Providing for transportation of rural school pupils.

No. 807. Mr. Roney—Requiring sprinkling in all lead and zinc mines.

No. 758.—Prohibiting quail being taken for any purpose out of season.

No. 174. Mr. Bretz—Creating another division of the Buchanan county circuit court.

No. 832. Mr. Settle—Providing for appointment of clerk for juvenile court.

No. 563.—Amending the deaf and dumb institute law.

No. 493.—Making it the duty of county clerks and election commissioners to correct errors made by election precincts in certifying election returns.

No. 235. Taylor and Parker—To provide public schools for children who are deaf or who have defective speech, and to provide state aid for school districts establishing such schools.

No. 106. Mr. McCollum—Giving the city of St. Joseph four justices of the peace, at a salary of \$2,000 per year each.

No. 17. Mr. Barbee—Empowering cities of the third class to provide for cilling streets.

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 605—Revision of the game and fish protection code.

No. 21. Mr. Ing—Providing a compensation for special judges of \$10 per day.

No. 202. Mr. Mitchell—Prohibiting druggists from selling or giving away opium, morphine, cocaine and heroin, except upon written prescription of a licensed dentist or licensed physician.

No. 931. Mr. Stephens—Providing a method of forming drainage associations. Does not affect present drainage district laws.

No. 170. Mr. Kassmann—Amending election laws governing fourth-class cities.

No. 194. Mr. Knight—Relating to suits for possession of real estate.

No. 920. Mr. Myers—Appropriating money to encourage the poultry industry; each regularly organized association to receive \$100 for its premium list from the state.

No. 70.—Requiring the city of Joplin to pay state dramslop license of \$300 per year and county \$400 per year.

No. 178. Mr. Barbee—Providing for cilling streets of third-class cities.

No. 76. Mr. Staedter—Relating to appointments by mayors in first class cities.

No. 94. Mr. Lee—Fixing the salaries of county officers of Jasper county.

No. 215. Mr. Wright—Amending the criminal code by providing imprisonment for failure to pay fine for certain offenses.

(Continued on Page 2.)